

**Torres, Francine**

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**From:** gwenlee@darnfastnet.com%inter2 [gwenlee@darnfastnet.com] on behalf of gwenlee@darnfastnet.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 17, 2005 10:02 PM  
**To:** Torres, Francine  
**Subject:** Please require "Free Range" in organic standards  
**Attachments:** ATTACHMENT.TXT

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to comment on the subject of Organic Standards.

Our family has purchased Organic foods almost exclusively for many years now. It is very important to us that the Standards remain high. Living in our rural community has made the reasons for high Standards very apparent to us.

One of those Standards currently requires that food animals be given access to pasture, fresh air, and fresh water. A few of our farmers do that and the animals are healthy and content. But it makes me cringe to see the conditions that way too many farm animals live in: turkeys in dirty, crowded pens, cows and steers in mud and filthy muck ankle deep or more - no grass, muck-caked hides, too many animals in a too-small space - they even treat the new-born calves this way.

*It is not humane and it is not sanitary and it is just not right!*

Please let the high standards for organic goods remain high! Otherwise, it would be removing the freedom of so many of us who want to purchase truly organic, but would no longer have the option.

Sincerely,

Don and Gwendolyn Lee and family  
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